



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

VA Scholarship Programs

VALOR Program

FAQs

Are VALOR students paid?

Yes! VALOR students are paid as hourly, intermittent employees. VALOR students are NOT eligible for overtime pay, holiday pay, or shift differential. VALORs are not eligible for benefits until selected for a Graduate Nurse position upon graduation. The VALOR student rate of pay changes each year. For 2022 the VALOR student will earn approximately \$20-21.00/hr. during their residency.

Can VALOR students choose the unit where they work?

No. VALOR students may express a preference for a unit, but they will be placed according to preceptor availability and unit needs. VALOR students will have rotations to other units for observational experiences (ICU, Bone Marrow Transplant, Cath Lab, Dialysis, ER, etc.).

- Nashville Campus – Medical/Surgical Units, Acute Mental Health, and other specialty areas.
- York Campus – Medical/Surgical Units, Mental Health Units, Hospice, and the Urgent Care Center.

I am in an accelerated BSN Program. Can I apply for the VALOR Program?

Students in an accelerated BSN program CAN apply for the VALOR Program IF they meet the program requirements and are available to work full-time from June-August of the program start year.

How can I make my application competitive?

First, assure you have submitted all of the required documents. Seek letters of recommendation from the dean/director of your school of nursing who will verify your nomination for the VALOR Program and provide positive feedback about your performance in nursing school. Assure your resume reflects not only your clinical and healthcare experience, but also other paid employment, volunteer work, and extracurricular activities.

How do I submit my application for the VALOR Program?

Application packages will be submitted to the **VALOR Program Coordinator** (Bettina.Huggins@va.gov) via email. Please remember that all applicants need to submit the required documents in their entirety on or before **03/19/2022** or they will not be considered for a VALOR position with the VA-Tennessee Valley Healthcare System (Nashville and Murfreesboro campuses).



Submit to: **VALOR Program Coordinator:** Bettina Huggins, MSN, RN

bettina.huggins@va.gov

615-873-6648

What are the required items to submit for a VA scholarship program?

These are the required items to be submitted for the VALOR Program no later than **3/19/2022**:

- Application (submitted to the VALOR Program Coordinator (bettina.huggins@va.gov)).
- Academic Verification
 - Verification letter of enrollment as a full-time student (as defined by the school), anticipated successful completion of the Junior Year (by June of 2022), and verification of anticipated graduation within one year (by June 2023). Please pay attention to the **deadline date for graduation** (by June 2023).
- Recommendations
 - Letter of recommendation from the dean/director of your school of nursing who will verify your nomination for the nursing valor program.
- Resume
- Transcripts
 - An official transcript documenting a **CGPA of 3.2 on a 4.0 scale**.
- Declaration for Federal Employment
- SF50 (for current or former VA employees)
- DD214 (for current or former military service members)

It is the student applicant's responsibility to ensure all required documentation is submitted prior to the application deadline of **3/19/2022**. Failure to submit all required documentation will result in the application not being considered

How will applicants be evaluated?

After the application packages are received the packages are reviewed to ensure all required documents have been enclosed. The applicants are evaluated for the program based on how well the applicant meets the scholarship qualifications. Veterans will be considered first among all equally qualified student applicants.

After we receive your application packet, we will contact you by telephone to schedule an interview. All applicants will be interviewed by a panel of nurse educators, nurse managers, and the VALOR Program Coordinator for positions at each campus. While we will try to place you in the clinical area you request, we may not be able to accommodate every specific preference. VALOR students are assigned to either the Nashville or the Murfreesboro campuses. Please specify which campus you would like to work at.

If you are chosen to participate in the 2021 VALOR program, you will be expected to begin duty in late May or early June 2021.

VALOR Program Contacts:

Bettina Huggins MSN, RN
Acting VALOR Program Coordinator
VA Tennessee Valley Healthcare System
615-873-6648
bettina.huggins@va.gov

Melissa Littman BSN, RN
Nurse Recruiter
VA Tennessee Valley Healthcare System
615-225-3608
melissa.littman@va.gov